

**SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR THIRD PARTY RECOVERY OF
ENCRYPTION CERTIFICATES IN A PUBLIC KEY INFRASTRUCTURE**

ABSTRACT

A first enterprise official desires to recover an encryption certificate of a user. The user may be a current member of an enterprise or a former member of the enterprise. The first enterprise official convinces a second enterprise official to designate the encryption certificate of the user as approved for recovery, where the second enterprise official has authorization to designate the encryption certificate as approved for recovery. The encryption certificate is designated as approved for recovery. The first enterprise official convinces a third enterprise official to execute recovery of the encryption certificate. The third enterprise official has authorization to execute recovery of the encryption certificate. The encryption certificate is recovered by the third enterprise official and provided to the first enterprise official.